



Cornell University Student Assembly

Originally Presented On	April 30, 2015
Type of Action	Sense-of-the-Body
Status/Result	New Business

S.A. Resolution #74 In Support of an Official Cornell Mascot

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4 **ABSTRACT:** In order to foster a sense of community, to enhance school
5 spirit, and to celebrate Cornell’s rich history and traditions, the Student
6 Assembly calls for the recognition of the Big Red Bear as the official mascot
7 of Cornell University.

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9 **Sponsored by: Lisa Liu ’15, Syed Ali Khan ’15, Sarah Balik ’15, and Matthew
10 Henderson ’16**

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12 **Whereas,** traditions lie at the center of the Cornell experience and work to build a sense of
13 community;

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15 **Whereas,** in 1915 the Cornell Varsity Football Team used a bear named Touchdown to
16 serve as the original Big Red Bear mascot;

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18 **Whereas,** the Big Red Bear has been integrated into Cornell tradition as the unofficial
19 mascot ever since;

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21 **Whereas,** Cornell does not have an official mascot but features the Big Red Bear in many
22 Cornell paraphernalia, such as apparel and other merchandise;

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24 **Whereas,** the Big Red Bear is also featured on the logo for Cornell Athletics, which play a
25 prominent role in fostering school spirit;

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27 **Whereas,** the Big Red Bear is not just connected to athletics but to a larger Cornell history
28 through its presence on university symbols, such as the University Mace and the entrance to
29 Willard Straight Hall;

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31 **Whereas,** alumni, friends, and students raised \$25,589 through the site
32 crowdfunding.cornell.edu towards the creation of a bear mascot statue;

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34 **Whereas,** the online campaign that rallied the gifts states, “Inspiring Big Red pride,
35 excellence, and camaraderie, Touchdown the Bear is a powerful icon and symbol for the
36 Cornell community”;

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38 **Be it therefore resolved,** that the Student Assembly fully supports naming the Big Red
39 Bear as the official mascot of Cornell University;

41 **Be it Further Resolved**, that this resolution be forwarded to President David J. Skorton,
42 President-elect Elizabeth Garrett, and the Board of Trustees for further consideration.

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44 **Respectfully Submitted,**

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46 **Lisa Liu '15**

47 *Undesignated At-Large, Student Assembly*

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49 **Syed Ali Khan '15**

50 *Minority At-Large, Student Assembly*

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52 **Sarah Balik '15**

53 *President, Student Assembly*

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55 **Matthew Henderson '16**

56 *Vice President for Internal Operations, Student Assembly*

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58 **Kushagra Aniket '15**

59 *Director of Elections, Student Assembly*

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61 **Marissa Guiang '15**

62 *Co-Chair, Student Assembly Finance Commission*

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64 **Connor McGrath '15**

65 *Undergraduate At-Large, University Assembly*

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67 **Thaddeus Talbot '15**

68 *Former Minority Student Liaison, Student Assembly*

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70 *(Reviewed by: Executive Board Committee, 4-0-0, 4-28-15)*